

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS TANIA FERNANDES ANDERSON, BREADON, FERNANDES ANDERSON, FITZGERALD, FLYNN, MEJIA, MURPHY, PEPÉN, SANTANA, WEBER, WORRELL, AND LOUIJEUNE



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING REGARDING CURRENT BAIL POLICIES IN LOCAL JAILS

WHEREAS, Since the Mayoral administration commenced sweeps in the area known as Mass & Cass, community advocates have reported that people have been sent directly to jail without being processed through precincts; *and*

WHEREAS, Constituents and activists have reported pursuant to the central booking process has been initiated without proper announcements, leading to cascading levels of confusion; *and*

WHEREAS, A plethora of people have been sent to both South Bay Jail and Nashua Street Jail, and community activists claim robust challenges have arisen regarding proper channels of communication and information verification at Nashua Street Jail; *and*

WHEREAS, If these claims are accurate, said process is particularly problematic, as bail would not be set for individuals being sent directly to jail, hence impacting their right to due process; *and*

WHEREAS, Constituents have also reported that there has been an ongoing series of delays in calling clerks into the jails, leaving people without access to bail, and that there has been a dearth regarding the provision of medical care within the jails; *and*

WHEREAS, There is a need to discuss these unsatisfactory reports pertaining to the lack of bail and inadequate medical care calls upon to inquire about these ongoing problematic processes, hence creating the conditions of next steps that may include a tour by councilors of the facilities under discussion, as well as an ascertaining of details pertaining to the current check-in procedures; *and*

WHEREAS, The City Council recognizes the importance of seeking comprehensive information on key metrics related to fairness in the treatment of individuals,

including considerations of race, class, gender, and health conditions, particularly those who have died in custody or under mysterious circumstances; *and*

WHEREAS, There is a crucial need for a thorough examination of the existing standards of treatment for individuals in detention, and a pressing concern regarding the reported lack of accountability or connection to expected service provisions;
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council conduct a comprehensive hearing on the existing bail and medical policies implemented in local jails. The committee shall extend invitations to administration officials, leadership representatives from South Bay Jail and Nashua St. Jail, impacted constituents, concerned citizens, and relevant community stakeholders, including organizations such as the Mass Bail Fund.

Filed on February 14, 2024